

European Laser Landscapes



Dear Colleagues,

It is a great pleasure for all of us to see the European landscape of laser dentistry becoming more and more diversified and vibrant.

The past months have been filled with a number of remarkable events dealing with this special field of dentistry.

The increasing number of conferences and meetings, for instance the SILO Congress on Capri, the Laser Congress in the Netherlands, the ISLD/DGL Congress, and many more, makes it easy to get in touch with the latest research results. The outlook for the rest of this year is also promising.

The First Mediterranean Laser Congress is going to be held on Rhodes in September. In co-operation with HEL-SOLA, ESOLA organized a meeting presenting the latest findings in microinvasive/esthetic laser dentistry. The number and quality of abstracts leads us to look forward to an exciting program at a wonderful location, bringing together colleagues from all over the world.

Module I from the ESOLA Academy is also ongoing, and the increasing number of participants in this postgraduate educational program rewards the ESOLA team for its continuous work to create a practicable education in laser dentistry. One of ESOLA's ideas is to join the scientific research of a number of European universities, with the profound experience of practitioners who have been using lasers for years. Offering the educational program of the ESOLA Academy, a three-step module system, we suit the action to the word. Scientists and practitioners teach today's standards in laser dentistry. An examination after Module II together with the documentation of the colleague's respective experience in practical work in the field confirms his/her specialization. Module III enables our colleagues to become members of the Academy, thus integrating them in the lectures and courses and hopefully spreading the knowledge about this advanced technique further.

The idea seems to be bearing fruit. Three alumni of the ESOLA Academy, Dr. Thukral, Dr. Patel and Dr. Shah established the Indian Laser Society – SOLA. The International

Conference on Dental Laser Applications in association with ESOLA will be held in Mumbai in October with international participation.

Another alumnus of the ESOLA Academy, Dr. DeBeer from South Africa, is about to found a South African Laser Society. The first presentation together with another educational course is planned for October/November this year.

Dr. Blanken from the Netherlands, also a member of the ESOLA Academy, was one of the driving forces behind the successful Laser Congress in the Netherlands some weeks ago.

One of the first attendees of the Academy's educational program, Dr. Berk of Turkey, will hopefully succeed in forming a Turkish Laser Society in affiliation with ESOLA before the end of the year.

Growing interest in laser dentistry is the desirable outcome of this development.

And that is what ESOLA is about – a family of committed laser dentists from all over the world, who nevertheless work closely together in promoting this still thrilling new field of dentistry. Their dedication to the ideas of ESOLA and their diligent commitment to the realization of new projects keep ESOLA and the affiliated societies growing, and strengthen their position in the range of new organizations and groups in the landscape of laser dentistry.

It seems that a great deal is happening this year; so let's have a look at what comes next.

Looking forward to the upcoming meetings,

Yours sincerely,

DDr. Franziska Beer
Managing Editor, JOLA